

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to cancel Claims 1-8 and add new Claims 9-24 as follows, this listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled)

9. (New) A front-loading washing machine with a rotating drum, whose drum shell is provided with flow perforations for exchanging washing liquid between the interior of the washing drum and the interior of a liquid container surrounding said drum and whose lowest shell line in the operating position of the washing machine differs from a horizontal, ascending towards the front, with hollow elongated carriers which are configured such that they take up quantities of liquid from their lowest position and raise said liquid as the washing drum rotates and release said liquid from a raised position into the interior of the washing drum, wherein in its front region which measures about a quarter to about a third of the total depth of the washing drum, the drum shell has a total area of flow perforations reduced by at least 50% compared with rear region.

10. (New) The washing machine according to claim 9, wherein the front region has no flow perforations.

11. (New) The washing machine according to claim 9, wherein the flow perforations in the front region are the same size as those in the rear region but are reduced in number compared thereto.

12. (New) The washing machine according to claim 9, wherein the flow perforations in the front region has a smaller inside diameter compared with those in the rear region.

13. (New) The washing machine according to claim 10, wherein the perforation-free front region is provided with groove-shaped indentations.

14. (New) The washing machine according to claim 13, wherein the groove-shaped indentations point towards flow perforations of the frontmost row in the rear region and end in front of the rear region.

15. (New) The washing machine according to claim 13, wherein every two adjacent groove-shaped indentations have increasing distances from front to back.

16. (New) The washing machine according to claim 13, wherein the groove-shaped indentations are arranged in a spiral shape with respect to the bearing axis of the laundry drum.

17. (New) A front-loading washing machine comprising:
 - a housing;
 - a liquid container disposed within the housing;
 - a drum disposed within the liquid container and mounted for rotation with respect to the liquid container, the drum including a substantially cylindrical drum shell extending from a front end having a front loading opening for receiving laundry to a rear end disposed opposite the front end, the drum shell having a front region adjacent the front end and extending at least a quarter of the distance between the front end and the rear end and a rear region adjacent the rear end extending between the front region and the rear end, multiple flow perforations being formed in the drum shell providing openings for exchanging washing liquid between the interior of the drum and the interior of a liquid container, the percentage of the drum shell being covered with flow perforations being greater in the rear region than in the front region; and
 - a plurality of hollow elongated carriers extending along drum between the rear end and the front end, each carrier having an inlet disposed near the rear end and outlet openings disposed near the front end, liquid entering the carriers through the inlet and flowing toward the outlet openings as the drum rotates within the liquid container.
18. (New) The washing machine according to claim 17, wherein the drum rotates about an axis of rotation angled upwardly as it extends from the rear end toward the front end.
19. (New) The washing machine according to claim 17, wherein the front region is substantially free of flow perforations.
20. (New) The washing machine according to claim 19, wherein the front region includes groove-shaped indentations directing liquid flow toward the rear region.

21. (New) The washing machine according to claim 19, wherein the groove-shaped indentations are arranged in a spiral shape with respect to the rotational axis of the drum and direction of rotation of the drum.

22. (New) The washing machine according to claim 17, wherein the size of the individual flow perforations is substantially the same in both the front region and the rear region and the flow perforations are more highly concentrated in the rear region than in the front region.

23. (New) The washing machine according to claim 17, wherein the size of the individual flow perforations in the front region is smaller than the size of the individual flow perforations in the rear region.

24. (New) The washing machine according to claim 17, wherein each carrier has a curved shape as it extends between the front and rear ends forming a convex flank and a concave flank, the percentage of the convex flank being covered with outlet openings being greater than the percentage of the concave flank being covered with outlet openings.